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ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS  
**Select Committee on**  
**Energy Independence and Global Warming**  
**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

EDWARD J. MARKEY, MASSACHUSETTS  
CHAIRMAN  
September 24, 2009

The Honorable Catherine Zoi  
Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Secretary Zoi:

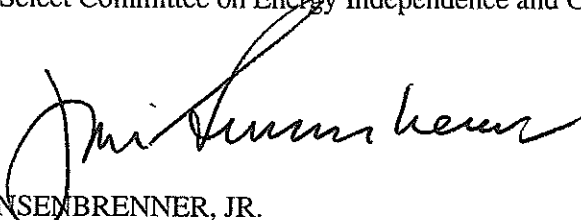
On August 1, 2009, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) which is overseen by the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy, published a White Paper entitled, "*NREL Response to the Report 'Study of the Effects on the Employment of Public Aid to Renewable Energy Sources' from King Juan Carlos University (Spain)*." The authors specifically refute the Spanish University's economic analysis of Spain's renewable energy subsidies and their resulting effect on the country's employment.

It is highly unusual for a National Laboratory to comment on a study by a Spanish University about Spanish policies. Further, as an Institute for Energy Research article<sup>1</sup> highlighted, NREL's own conclusion contained many inaccuracies and flaws. Given the reactionary and peculiar nature of the NREL paper, please respond to the following questions:

1. Did DOE fund this study? If so, how much DOE funding was provided?
2. Who requested the study and what was the stated reason to undertake the response?
3. Who initially approved the white paper response and funding?
4. What is NREL's policy of commissioning reactionary studies? What guidelines does the DOE provide?

I would appreciate a response by October 8, 2009. If you have any further questions, please contact Andy Zach with the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming at (202) 225-0110.

Sincerely,



F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.  
Ranking Member, Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming

<sup>1</sup>The NREL's Flawed White Paper on the Spanish Green Jobs Study, September 3, 2009, available at <http://www.instituteforenergyresearch.org/2009/09/03/the-nrels-flawed-white-paper-on-the-spanish-green-jobs-study>.